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PLAGUE.

The plague continues to show an improvement over that of last year. This year there were 5 cases and 5 deaths during the week, while during the same period last year there were 15 cases and 12 deaths. No further cases of plague have been reported as occurring in the provinces.

April 21, 1904, the steamer *Lyra* cleared for Tacoma with a full cargo of hemp. There were no passengers. The crew were inspected on board just prior to sailing.

Islands declared free from cholera—Smallpox—Disinfection.

Chief Quarantine Officer Heiser reports, May 6, as follows:

During the week ended April 30, 1904, the quarantinable diseases reported in Manila were as follows:

	Cases.	Deaths.
Cholera	0	0
Smallpox	3	1
Plague	3	3

CHOLERA.

The cholera situation has improved so much that the board of health has felt warranted in passing the following resolution:

Whereas cases of Asiatic cholera have occurred in but three provincial towns of the Philippine Islands since February 8, 1904; and

Whereas only one case of Asiatic cholera has been reported as occurring at any place in the Philippine Islands since March 8, 1904; and

Whereas the city of Manila was declared, on March 23, to be free from the infection of Asiatic cholera: On motion,

Resolved, That the islands comprising the Philippine Archipelago be and hereby are declared to be free from the infection of Asiatic cholera; and be it further

Resolved, That the commissioner of public health be directed to send a copy of these resolutions to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior, the municipal board, the collector of customs, and the United States Marine-Hospital Service.

SMALLPOX.

The gradual spread of the smallpox is shown by the fact that two vessels arrived during the week upon which were found persons in the vesicular stage of the disease. The vessels were promptly remanded to the Mariveles Quarantine Station. The sick were placed in the station hospital, the passengers and crew bathed, their effects and the vessels disinfected, and all persons who could not present satisfactory evidence of recent and successful vaccination were placed in quarantine. One of the vessels, the steamer *Avante*, after thorough disinfection was released with such members of the crew as could show the Service vaccination cards and exhibit evidence of a recent successful vaccination. The value of vaccinating the entire number of persons engaged in the interisland shipping and properly recording such work was well illustrated by this vessel. In addition to the appearance of the vaccination mark, there was reliable documentary evidence made by the Service which showed when the vaccination was done and the result thereof. By this method, the vessel and crew

could be released at once and a great saving effected for her owners, and, at the same time, the public health not jeopardized.

On April 30, 1904, the steamer *Indrawadi* cleared for New York. All cargo taken on here was inspected and passed and so certified on the ship's papers. Entire personnel inspected on board prior to sailing.

Quarantine transactions in the Philippine Islands during the month of February, 1904.

PORT OF MANILA.

Bills of health issued:	
To steamers for United States ports	5
Foreign ports	41
Domestic ports	176
To sailing vessels for United States ports	1
Foreign ports	0
Domestic ports	110
Total	333
Vessels inspected:	
Steamers from United States ports	4
Foreign ports	45
Domestic ports	178
Sailing vessels from United States ports	0
Foreign ports	0
Domestic ports	92
Total	319
Passengers on arriving boats inspected:	
On steamers, cabin	1,211
On steamers, steerage	5,278
On sailing vessels, cabin	1
On sailing vessels, steerage	497
Total	6,987
Persons vaccinated:	
On steamers, crew	975
On steamers, passengers	0
On sailing vessels, crew	458
On sailing vessels, passengers	0
Total	1,433
Crew on arriving steamers inspected	9,496
Crew on arriving sailing vessels inspected	844
Persons quarantined for observation, suspects and contacts	91
Persons bathed and effects disinfected	234
Steamers disinfected	3
Sailing vessels disinfected	0
Steamers fumigated to exterminate vermin	16
Sailing vessels fumigated to exterminate vermin	3
Cases of quarantinable diseases detected on steamers, smallpox	1
Vessels detained in quarantine	1
Pieces of baggage disinfected on steamers	252
Pieces of baggage disinfected on sailing vessels	0
Pieces of baggage inspected and passed on steamers	53
Pieces of baggage inspected and passed on sailing vessels	0

(Outgoing.)

Vessels remaining in quarantine from January	0
Steamers sailing without quarantine inspected and passed	5